

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Grant

Purpose

The purpose of this grant is to support programs that:

1. prevent violence in and around schools;
2. prevent the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs;
3. involve parents and communities; and
4. are coordinated with related federal, state, school and community efforts and resources to foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that promotes student academic achievement.

Expectations and Outcomes

The grant achieves quality through the Principles of Effectiveness, which require that grantees:

- base their programs on research-based prevention activities;
- select activities that respond to local needs, as determined by objective data;
- establish a set of performance measures for their programs aimed at ensuring a
- safe, orderly and drug-free learning environment;
- involve parents in their programs; and
- evaluate their programs.

Authorized activities include:

- Age appropriate and developmentally based violence and substance abuse prevention programs;
- Professional development and training for school personnel, parents and community members in drug and violence prevention;
- Expanded mental health services related to illegal drug use and violence;
- Conflict resolution and peer median on programs;
- Alternative education programs;
- Counseling, mentoring, referral services and other student assistance practices and programs;
- Activities that involve families and community prevention providers in setting clear expectations against violence and illegal use of drugs;
- Emergency intervention services following traumatic crisis events;
- Establishing or implementing a system for transferring suspension and expulsion records;
- Developing and implementing character education programs;
- Establishing and maintaining a school safety hotline;
- Community service and service-learning projects;
- Conducting a national background check for all employees;
- Programs to train school personnel to identify warning signs of youth suicide;
- Programs for students faced with domestic violence or child abuse; and
- School security, including surveillance cameras and other technology, security personnel, and supporting safe zones of passage.